



**FITZPATRICK**

FAMILY VINEYARDS

## SUDDEN INVERSION MERITAGE 2016



SKU – 237096

Hospitality Price – \$28.50

Wholesale – \$22.51

12 bottles per case

To Order email

e: [orderdesk@fitzwine.com](mailto:orderdesk@fitzwine.com)

The 2016 vintage started with an unusually early and hot spring. This was followed by cooler temperatures in the summer months and a long, moderate autumn leading to long hang times for the fruit to mature and develop great flavour and complexity. The Meritage – a blend of Merlot, Cabernets Franc and Sauvignon – was cold soaked for 5 days with 10% being whole bunch. Each varietal was fermented separately in stainless steel then all lots were blended before barrelling down to French oak for 14 months aging. A natural, wild malolactic fermentation occurred in spring which was followed by further aging to add complexity and depth.

Aromas of dark berries & chocolate, with hints of mint, anise and leather with a toasty edge. The palate is full, showing blackberry, blueberry and dark plum. Dense layers of fruit and texture with smooth velvety tannins. Moderate weight and length.

### Winemaker's notes

Hand sourced from Maverick Vineyard in Osoyoos

67% Merlot

19% Cabernet Franc

14% Cabernet Sauvignon

25 day fermentation, 10% whole bunch

Alcohol 14.4%

Aged in French oak 14 months (12% new oak and

88% neutral)

Unfined and Unfiltered

Bottled March 2018

992 cases

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